

Northwest Branch Bridge Rehabilitation Project



Bridge over Northwest Branch on I-495 (Capital Beltway) in Silver Spring

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS SPRING 2011

The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) will soon begin a two-year bridge rehabilitation project on the I-495 Northwest Branch Bridge between MD 650 (New Hampshire Avenue) and MD 193 (University Boulevard) in Silver Spring. The existing structure was built in 1967 and its deck is showing signs of deterioration. Construction will begin this spring and will be complete in the fall of 2012, weather permitting.

Work includes replacing portions of the existing concrete bridge deck. SHA will also replace the traffic barriers, install new concrete to resurface portions of the bridge deck not being replaced, and resurface the approach roadway once bridge work is complete. Crews will manage construction in eight phases, incorporating multiple lane shifts for the duration of the project. Pattern changes include a temporary traffic split around the work zone and temporary lane shifts on both sides of I-495.

The project will require two years to complete due to temperature requirements for placing the concrete overlay. Once all work scheduled for 2011 is completed, the project will be shutdown for the winter and all temporary concrete traffic barriers will be removed from the work zone until construction resumes in spring 2012.

The project will improve the ride quality for more than 230,000 vehicles per day and prolong the service life of the bridge for the next 30 to 50 years. **See map on reverse side.**

TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURES

All eight lanes will remain open at peak hours during construction, and lane widths will be reduced from 12 feet to 11 feet for its duration. Closures will be in effect on both sides of I-495 as follows:

During construction on the Northwest Branch Bridge:

Shoulder closures: 24 hours a day for the duration of the project

Single-lane closures: Overnight, Monday through Friday: 10 p.m. – 5 a.m.

During the final grinding and resurfacing phase in late 2012:

Single-lane closures: Overnight, Sunday through Thursday: 8 p.m. – 5 a.m.

Double-lane closures: Overnight, Sunday through Thursday: 10 p.m. – 5 a.m.

Triple-lane closures: Overnight, Monday through Thursday: 12 a.m. – 5 a.m.

SHA will provide variable message signs, drums, and arrow boards to guide motorists through the work zone.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The following SHA District 3 representatives are available to answer questions regarding roadwork along I-495:

Kimberly Frum – Community Liaison, 301-513-7405, KFrum@sha.state.md.us

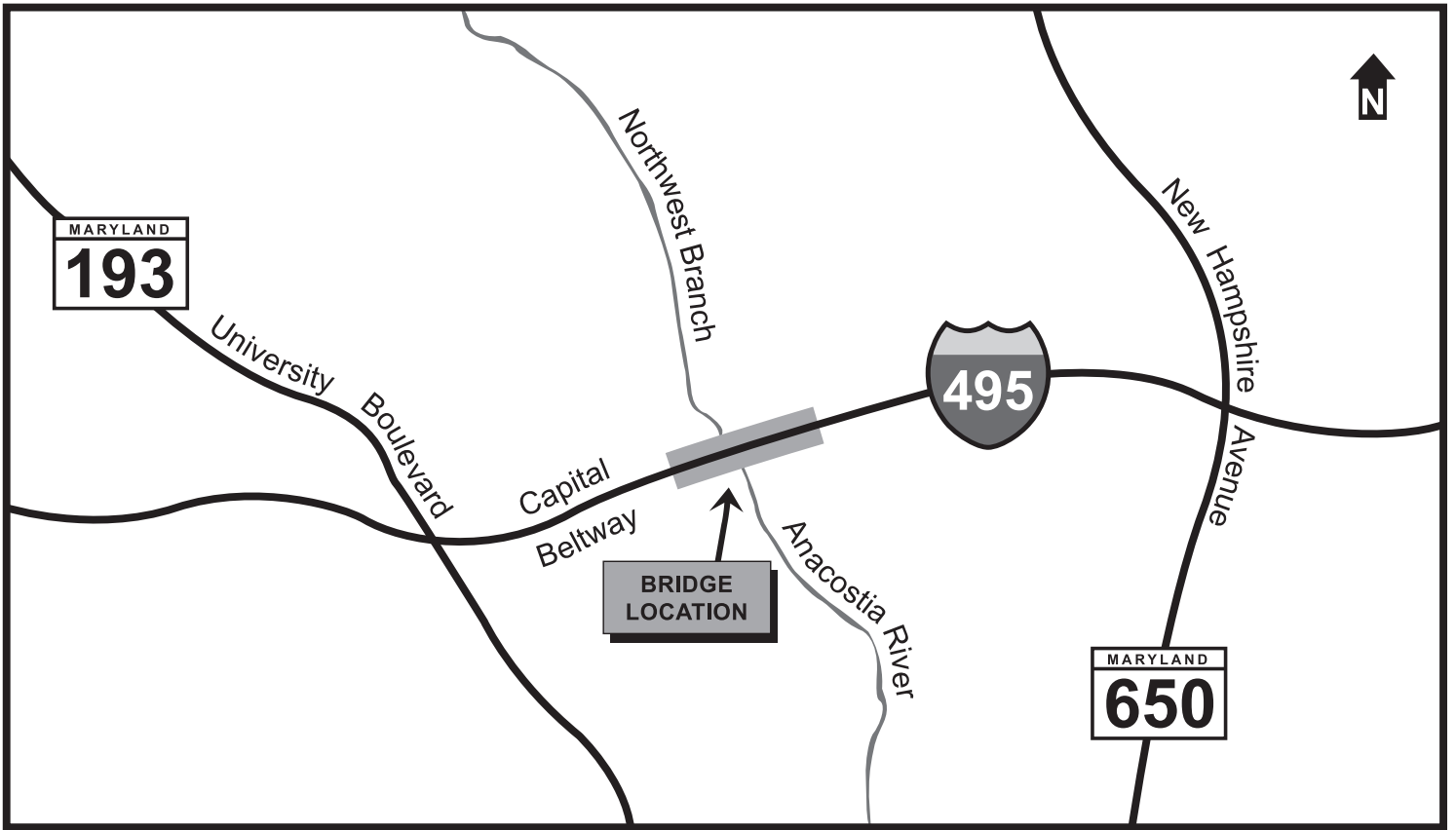
Michael Brown – Project Engineer, 410-838-7788, MBrown6@sha.state.md.us

SHA District 3 Office – Toll-free 1-800-749-0737, SHADistrict3@sha.state.md.us

Request for Assistance – The Maryland Relay Service can assist teletype users at 711. SHA will provide a telephonic interpreter for those who need assistance with the English language.

For additional information on the latest Montgomery County projects, sign up for a quarterly e-newsletter. Please contact Ms. Kimberly Frum to be added to the Montgomery County project update list. You may also visit SHA's website at www.roads.maryland.gov and click on **Projects and Studies/SHA Projects Page/ Montgomery County/ TC - Bridge 1513700 over Northwest Branch**.

Construction season is here with numerous active work zone sites, including major construction projects requiring months to complete and shorter-term mobile operations. While SHA and its transportation partners work hard to maintain safe traffic mobility in work zones, each driver should stay alert—look for reduced speed limits, narrow driving lanes, and highway workers. Safer Driving. Safer Work Zones. For everyone.



Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony Brown, Lieutenant Governor
Beverley K. Swaim-Staley, Secretary
Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

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